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September 16, 1904 1894

2 verified cases with death of 1 of same on the 15th; 10th, 1 verified case; 11th, 7 verified cases with death of 2 of same; 12th, 1 verified case, which died on the 13th, and 4 suspect deaths: 13th, 2 verified cases, 1 of which died on the 17th; 14th, 3 verified cases; 15th, 1 verified case and 3 suspect deaths; 16th, 1 suspect death, and 17th, 2 suspect deaths.

The suspect deaths are those encountered by health officers who have to verify all deaths before burial certificates are allowed to be issued, and in each instance precautions were taken as is done with

confirmed cases.

During the period the houses having confirmed or suspect cases were disinfected, and such of the occupants as would consent were injected with plague serum.

The markets and stores in infected sections are from time to time ordered to be washed with creolene, as is also required of the churches,

theaters, and halls before any large gathering is permitted.

The chief difficulty with which the health authorities have to contend is the lack of belief by many intelligent people that the plague exists here. Expressions from such have occasioned doubt in the minds of the more ignorant and unhygienic, among whom so far have been the cases.

The attack and death of a popular student of the law university has aroused the student class, who have rushed to the bacteriologic institute to be vaccinated. Recently those injected with plague serum have averaged more than a hundred a day and on yesterday reached 305. Included in these are many doctors and officials of prominence whose example will tend to inspire confidence.

With the number under treatment the plague hospital has become full, necessitating arrangement of additional quarters on the same

grounds.

Trains from here as well as the coastwise boats are inspected and disinfected before leaving and every effort is being made to prevent the spread of the disease to the interior of the State.

Report from Rio de Janeiro—Yellow fever, plague, and smallpox— Plague death reported from Pernambuco.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, August 14, as follows: During the two weeks ended the 6th instant the following vessels left this port for United States ports, and were all inspected and issued bills of health by the consulate-general at this place: On the 26th ultimo the steamship Goodwood, British, for New York, with coffee, no passengers, and no changes in the personnel of the crew while here; on the 1st instant the steamship Moorish Prince, British, for New York, with coffee, no passengers, and no change in the crew personnel while here; on the same date the British steamship Newton, for New Orleans, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers, and no change in the crew personnel while in this port; on the 2d instant the British steamship Britannia, for Mobile, with a cargo of manganese ore, no passengers, and no change in the crew while in port; on the 4th instant the Norwegian bark Seringa, for Sapelo, Ga., in stone ballast, with no passengers, and with 5 new members of the crew signed on while in this port; and on the 4th instant the British steamship Byron, for

New York, with 35 first-class passengers from this port and the River Plate, and 70 third-class (steerage) from the same places.

The passengers from the River Plate were brought here to this port by one of the Royal Mail steamships, and were directly transferred aboard the *Byron* without any communication with the shore. This vessel also took on here three new members of the crew.

There were no other vessels leaving this port for the United States

during the period under consideration.

There is but little sanitary news of interest since my last report. There continue to be some few cases of bubonic plague in Bahia. On the 31st ultimo there were 2 new cases reported, and on the 4th instant it was reported that there were actually at that date 20 cases in the plague hospital. On that date there was 1 new case reported.

The disease is almost entirely confined to the old and low part of the city, the higher portion having been so far almost entirely exempt.

On the 9th instant a report was received here that on the previous day 1 death from plague had occurred in Pernambuco, in the person of one Dr. Silva Leal.

This is the first case of plague reported from Pernambuco for a long period. The dysentery in that city has at last assumed much smaller proportions, the report for the last two weeks showing only 100 deaths from that cause.

## Sanitary reports from Rio de Janeiro.

During the last two weeks the weather has been very cool and pleasant, and the epidemic of smallpox on that account, no doubt, has not shown any signs of diminution, although it has not increased to any alarming degree.

Last week there were no cases nor deaths from yellow fever, a condition of affairs which has not existed here since the week ended January 3, 1904. The plague, on the other hand, shows symptoms of slight recrudescence, there having been during the week ended the 31st ultimo 10 cases and 2 deaths and during the last week 5 cases and 4 deaths.

The reports for the two weeks, in detail, are as follows:

During the week ended July 31 there were in all 330 deaths, of which number 2 were caused by yellow fever, with 6 new cases, and at the close of the week, 4 cases under treatment at São Sebastião. Plague caused 2 deaths, with 10 new cases reported, and at the week end there were 14 cases under treatment at Paulo Candido Hospital. Smallpox caused 92 deaths, with 267 new cases reported, and at the close of the week there were under treatment at São Sebastião 309 cases of this disease.

There were no deaths from scarlet fever, whooping cough, choleraic diseases of children, or from leprosy. Measles caused 1 death, diphtheria, 1; grippe, 11; enteric fever, 2; dysentery, 3; beriberi, 1; malarial fevers, 6, and tuberculosis, 40.

The deaths were divided as follows: Males, 200; females, 130;

natives, 258; foreigners, 71, and nationality unknown, 1.

By age as follows: Less than 1 year of age, 50; more than 1 and up to 5, 38; 5 to 10, 14; 10 to 20, 22; 20 to 30, 63; 30 to 40, 40; 40 to 50, 38; 50 to 60, 23; more than 60, 40, and age unknown, 2.

As regards place of occurrence as follows: In private houses, hotels, domiciles of any sort, 195; in civil hospitals, 79; in military hospitals,

3; in Santa Casa da Misericordia, 48; in asylums, convents, etc., 2; in vessels in port, none, and 3 in localities unknown.

The daily average of deaths was 47.14, compared with 55.14 during the previous week, and with 44.57 for the corresponding week last year. The highest range of the thermometer during the week was 27.5° C. on the 29th ultimo, and the lowest on the 27th ultimo, viz, 15.7° C. The average for the week was 20.16° C. Total rainfall, 0.76 mm.

During the week ended the 7th instant there were in all 360 deaths. Of this number there were none due to yellow fever, and there were no new cases of this disease, and at the close of the week there were no cases even in São Sebastião Hospital. Plague caused 4 deaths with 5 new cases, and at the end of the week there were 14 cases ill, and under observation 1 in the Paulo Candido Hospital. Smallpox caused 118 deaths, with 282 new cases reported, and at the end of the week there were 337 cases of this disease in the Hospital São Sebastião. No deaths were caused by scarlet fever, choleraic diseases of children, or leprosy. Measles caused 1 death; whooping cough, 1; diphtheria, 4; enteric fever, 1; grippe, 11; dysentery, 4; beriberi, 2; malarial fevers, 4, and tuberculosis, 44.

Of the total number, 210 deaths were males and the remainder females. Two hundred and eighty-four were natives and 72 were foreigners, with 4 whose nationality was unknown. As regards ages, 58 were less than 1 year old, 62 between 1 and 5 years of age, 5 to 10, 11; 10 to 20, 25; 20 to 30, 69; 30 to 40, 42; 40 to 50, 35; 50 to 60, 11; more than 60 years of age, 45, and 2 whose age could not be ascertained. In homes, hotels, etc., there were 195 of the deaths; in civil hospitals, 94; in military hospitals, 8; in Santa Casa da Misericordia, 52; in asylums, convents, etc., 4; in vessels in port, none, and in unknown localities, 5.

The daily average of deaths was 51.42, compared with 47.14 during the previous week, and with 41 during the same week last year. The coefficient per 1,000 at this rate would be 22.14, and for the previous week, 20.29. The highest range of the thermometer during this week was 25.8° C. on the 2d instant, and the lowest was on the 5th instant, 15.9° C., while the average for the week was 19.45° C. There was no measurable rainfall during the period under consideration.

## BRITISH HONDURAS.

## Report from Belize, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Carson reports as follows: Week ended September 1, 1904: Present officially estimated population, 8,500; number of deaths, 3; prevailing disease, malarial fever of mild type; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

| Date.              | Vessel. | Number<br>of crew. |             | Number of<br>passengers<br>in transit. | Pieces of baggage disinfected. |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------|-------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Aug. 26<br>Sept. 1 | Beverly | 44<br>17<br>15     | 3<br>0<br>0 | 8<br>0<br>0                            | 0<br>0<br>0                    |